

Building Innovation Unit

Background

In early 2000, a “Task Force on Design & Construction of Building” comprising members from the professional and senior professional ranks was formed in Buildings Department (BD). The Task Force was to provide support to the then Secretary for Planning & Lands and the Director of Buildings (DB) in the formulation of policies concerning green buildings, innovative building technology and design.

2. In July 2000, the Task Force on Design & Construction of Buildings was re-named Building Innovation Unit (BIU). It was a regular unit directly under the DB with staff drawn from time to time from various Divisions.

Composition of BIU

3. Since the establishment of the BIU in 2000, there have been two Senior Building Surveyors/Senior Structural Engineers (SBS/SSE), four Building Surveyors/Structural Engineers (BS/SE) and two Survey Officers/Technical Officers (SO/TO) serving on the Unit on a full-time basis. The Unit Head is a Directorate officer (Chief Building Surveyor/Chief Structural Engineer (CBS/CSE) who oversees the Unit on a part-time basis. The composition of the Unit has changed over the years. Since May 2008, the size of the Unit was reduced to one SBS/SSE, two BS/SE and two SO/TO due to internal redeployment of resources.

Duties and Functions

4. The BIU was tasked to provide support to the senior management in the campaign for green buildings, innovative building technology and design. Its main duties can be further elaborated as follows:

- (a) Exploring the latest development in building technology and environmental design;
- (b) Assisting in the review of the Building Ordinance, regulations, codes of practices, standards, practice notes and plan processing procedures and to recommend improvements with a view to

promoting the design and construction of green and innovative buildings;

- (c) Pre-accepting construction methods and project-related designs and building materials which are environmentally friendly;
- (d) Vetting and processing projects with special merits in the provision of green and innovative facilities;
- (e) Setting criteria in assessing green and innovative building proposals with a view to recommending incentives to encourage such developments in the private sector; and
- (f) Promoting the development of green and innovative projects.

Unit Heads

5. Since its inception in July 2000, there have been four Unit Heads which are listed below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
PANG Tat-choi, Paul	CSE	Jul 2000	Dec 2001
CHUNG Chun-man	CBS	Jan 2002	May 2003
CHOY Kin-kuen	CSE	Jun 2003	Aug 2005
HUI Siu-wai	CBS	Sep 2005	Present

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